



Capital of the Adirondacks™

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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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In-person and virtual public forums planned for collecting input from renters and homeowners

SARANAC LAKE – The Village of Saranac Lake Housing Work Group is hosting two forums, one in-person and one virtual, in order to collect feedback from renters and homeowners on the [Draft Housing Strategic Plan](#). The in-person forum will be held on September 30, 2021 from 6:00-8:00 PM in the Town Hall Auditorium. There will be two 45-minute sessions. The first session (6:00-6:45 PM) will focus on input from homeowners. The second session (7:00-7:45 PM) will be focused on renters. For the first fifteen minutes of each session, participants will be asked to respond to a series of questions with sticky notes and sticker dots. For the remaining thirty minutes participants may join a small group discussion facilitated by members of the Housing Work Group. Each session will be limited to 36 participants. Masks are required.

A virtual forum will be held via Zoom for renters and homeowners on October 7, 2021 from 6:00-7:00 PM. Participants will have the opportunity to respond to several poll questions before joining breakout groups for renters and homeowners. The breakout groups will be facilitated by members of the Housing Work Group. The link and passcode to join the meeting can be found on the Calendar and Housing Project pages on the village website (www.saranaclakeny.gov).

In addition to the public forums, the Housing Work Group will host roundtable discussions with realtors and developers on October 21, 2021 at 1:00 PM and with employers on October 28, 2021 at 1:00 PM. These meetings will be held virtually. Registration is required. The registration links are posted on the Calendar and Housing Project pages of the village website.

Anyone can share input via an online survey that is available now through October 30th on the village website (see Projects tab, Housing). More details on all public input events can be found on the Housing Project page on the village website.

The Work Group plans to review the public input and make changes to the Draft Strategic Housing Plan as needed before presenting a final draft in November during in-person and/or virtual public meetings.

The Draft Housing Strategic Plan proposes concrete, viable solutions to housing issues (some of them long-standing) that undermine the Village of Saranac Lake's commitment to building a sustainable community that offers a wide range of housing options.

The Village Board of Trustees created the Housing Work Group in December of 2018 for the purpose of identifying specific strategies to achieve the housing goals outlined in local plans and to leverage both public and private investment in housing within Saranac Lake. Community input received during the Village's NYS-funded Downtown Revitalization Initiative catalyzed the formation of a Housing Work Group, which is composed of local residents with experience in housing. Over the past two-and-a-half-years, including a pause due to effects of the pandemic, the Work Group has utilized a variety of means to analyze housing issues in Saranac Lake and explored strategies for addressing those issues. The findings and recommendations from the Work Group are presented in the Draft Housing Strategic Plan.